

# **SUMMER 2021 TRIP FYI'S for WMPC YOUTH**

## **How can we offer summer youth trips for 2021 when the future is unclear in regard to COVID-19?**

We are proceeding as though these trips will all be able to happen safely for our students and leaders. Many details are still being decided by the organizations that host our trips as well as our youth staff who coordinate these trips. However, we want to be clear:

**We are committed to following the guidelines of NCDHHS, the CDC and the WMPC Reopening Task Force as we plan and lead our summer trips.**

## **How will you handle cancellations?**

1. If COVID related issues end up preventing you from attending, you may elect to receive a full refund.
2. If the organization cancels the trip or WMPC must cancel a trip because we cannot follow the guidelines of the NCDHHS, CDC and the WMPC Reopening task force, families may elect to receive a full refund.
3. For all other cancellations, each trip's registration form provides a refund deadline date. The date is based on when WMPC is required to make payments to the trip organizations.

## **Deposits:**

All of our trips require a deposit to register.

## **Financial Aid:**

The Bob Ames Youth Ministry Fund is available for all youth ministry mission trips, conferences, retreats and other church sponsored activities. All requests to access the fund should be sent to Chip Pope. The link to the application is <http://whitememorial.org/youth/forms/>

## **Please find information related to each trip below.**

As we know details, we will update this page. **Last Updated: 1/11/21**

### **ASP- Appalachia Service Project**

**June 13-19, 2021**

**Completed 9th - 12th grade**

**Cost \$385 per person, \$150 deposit**

## **Transportation:**

Transportation for our 2021 ASP trip has yet to be determined. Typically, we travel in multiple 15 passenger vans throughout the week, but we will monitor the situation and make the call on how we will transport participants based on the up to date health and safety guidelines.

**Housing and Sleeping Arrangements:**

During a typical ASP year, participants sleep at the “home base” facility that is provided by ASP. We are currently waiting to hear how ASP will provide a safe and distanced space for us to be housed during the week.

**Overall Program:**

TBD - We will update this information when we hear from ASP about their plan for 2021 summer programming.

**Massanetta Middle School Conference****July 8-11, 2021****Completed 6th - 8th grade****Cost \$385 per person, \$150 deposit**

We are hopeful to attend Massanetta’s “Gathered In Person” option for this summer. Here is their statement from [Massanetta’s website](#) -

*Gathered in Person- With recent vaccine news, we are optimistic we will be able to offer a live, in person Middle School Conference. We do not yet know exactly what attendance or other restrictions might be in place, but it is our goal and sincere hope that Massanetta Springs comes alive again with the spirit-filled sound of Middle School Conference in 2021.*

**Transportation:**

TBD. Massanetta Springs is a 4.5 to a 5.5 hour drive from WMPC. Typically, we go in a church van. A possible option that we are exploring for 2021 is to take 1 or 2 church vans with students sitting 6 feet apart and wearing masks unless they are actively eating or drinking.

**Housing and Sleeping Arrangements:**

TBD. We will update this information when we hear from Massanetta about their housing options. Typically we stay in Massanetta’s hotel style rooms where two students share a room and two rooms share a bathroom.

**Overall Program:**

TBD. When we have updated information about Massanetta’s programs, gatherings and food service for 2021 we will update our information. Typically, we gather in the Hudson open-air auditorium, small groups that meet outside, outside field games, and workshops that meet both indoors and outdoors with our small groups. Typically, we eat in Massanetta’s dining hall, going through the buffet line. We are very hopeful to hear Massanetta’s plans to have their conference on site safely.

**Montreat Youth Conference:****July 18-24, 2021****Completed 8th - 12th grade****Cost \$525 per person, \$150 deposit****Transportation:**

During a typical Montreat trip we travel in all kinds of vehicles to Montreat, NC including church vans and rental vans. We are currently attempting to determine the safest and best way to transport participants to Montreat to attend the conference. We will make the call based on the most up to date health and safety guidelines.

**Housing and Sleeping Arrangements:**

For the 2021 Montreat Youth Conference, WMPC is scheduled to be housed in the Winsborough facility which is a dorm-like building owned and operated by Montreat Conference Center. Winsborough has several common areas where we will be able to gather as a back-home group together. We will make the call on the sleeping arrangements based on the most up to date health and safety guidelines.

**Overall Program**

The programming for the Montreat Youth Conference is TBD. We hope that we will be able to participate in an in-person conference during the summer with many familiar programs and events like keynotes, small groups, worship, candlelight, and more. We will update you as we learn more from the conference center about how the week will be structured.

**Asheville Mission Trip****August 1-6, 2021****Completed 6th - 8th grade****Cost \$350 per person, \$150 deposit****Transportation:**

TBD. Typically, we go in a church van and one other vehicle. A possible option that we are exploring for 2021 is to take 1 or 2 church vans with students sitting 6 feet apart and wearing masks unless they are actively eating or drinking.

**Housing and Sleeping Arrangements:**

TBD. We will update this information when we hear from Asheville Mission Co. about their sleeping arrangements for summer 2021.

Typically, we sleep in First Presbyterian Church's Sunday school rooms on air mattresses. The girls have a room, and the boys have a room across the hall.

**Overall Program**

TBD- We will update this information when we hear from Asheville Mission Co. about their programs and food service for 2021.

In years past we would gather in the mornings for breakfast at First Pres. and to make our bag lunches. We then depart in small groups for our work sites for the day, gathering back together for lunch at a park in Asheville. In the early evening we travel to The Asheville School where we used their athletic facility to take showers before heading back to First Pres. for dinner, games and a devotion time.